

### Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph of page 1, under the heading “Related Applications” with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is related to commonly assigned and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/756,918 (Attorney Docket No. AUS920030936US1) entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING HANDWRITING RECOGNITION BY ANALYSIS OF STROKE START AND END POINTS”, filed on [[\_\_\_\_]] January 14, 2004, and to commonly assigned and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/756,919 (Attorney Docket No. AUS920031038US1) entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING REFERENCE CHARACTER DICTIONARY COMPARISONS DURING HANDWRITING RECOGNITION”, filed on January 14, 2004, and hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph on page 18 of the application as filed with the following amended paragraph:

GUI 400 may also include scaling window 442 that outputs a scaled version of the handwritten character or handwritten character strokes supplied to capture area 402. The graphic output of scaling window 442 may include scaled-up or scaled-down character strokes that correspond to a handwritten character stroke input by the user into capture area 402. In the illustrative example, scaling window 442 outputs a scaled character [[407]] 401 that is derived from character 406 by scaling character 406 by a predefined amount. Particularly, scaled character [[407]] 401 consists of scaled character strokes 413, 415, and 417 that respectively correspond to strokes 412, 414, and 416 input by the user into capture area 402. Scaling window 442 provides a visual output with a consistent size and provides a mechanism for providing the user with a uniform visual feedback of the handwritten character data being entered.